ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF MILITARY WORKS

OF THE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY,

FOR THE YEAR

1887-88.

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MILITARY WORKS.

1. The places within the limits of the Bombay Presidency at which Bombay Troops are stationed, and the buildings in which are in charge of the Bombay Public Works Department, are as follows :—

Army Division or District.	Name of Station.	Executive District.	Superintending Division.
Northern Division of the Army.	Ahmedabad ...	Executive Engineer, Ahmedabad.	Superintending Engineer, Northern Division.
	Rájkot ...		
	Bhúj ...		
	Baroda ...	Executive Engineer, Kaira.	
	Surat ...	Executive Engineer, Surat and Broach.	
Bombay District ...	Bombay ...	Executive Engineer, Military Works, Bombay.	
	Colába ...		
	Devláli ...		
	Thána ...	Executive Engineer, Thána.	
Poona Division of the Army.	Poona ...	Executive Engineer, Poona and Kirkee.	Chief Engineer, Central Division.
	Kirkee ...		
	Sirúr ...	Executive Engineer, Poona District.	
	Purandhar ...		
	Khandála ...		
	Ahmednagar ...	Executive Engineer, Ahmednagar.	
	Sholápur ...	Executive Engineer, Sholápur.	
	Málegaon ...	Executive Engineer, Khándesh.	
	Sátára ...	Executive Engineer, Sátára.	Superintending Engineer, Southern Division.
Sind District ...	Karáchi ...	Executive Engineers, Karáchi Canals and Karáchi Defences.	Superintending Engineer for Irrigation in Sind.
	Ghizree ...	Executive Engineer, Karáchi Canals.	
	Kotri ...		
	Jask ...		
	Hyderabad ...	Executive Engineer, Fuleli Canals.	
	Sui ...	Executive Engineer, Begári Canal.	
	Kashmor ...		
	Toj ...		
	Goránári ...		
	Sanhri ...		
	Sukkur ...	Executive Engineer, Shikárpur Canals.	
Aden Brigade... ...	Aden ...	Executive Engineer, Aden.	Superintending Engineer, W. I. C. D.
	Perim ...		

2. In addition to the foregoing stations, the Bombay Public Works Department has in its charge the buildings in the station of Belgaum in the Southern Division, garrisoned by Madras Troops.

3. In Kolhápur the same arrangements are in force, as described in the last report.

4. The expenditure under the head Military (including Contributions) in 1887-88, amounted to Rs. 9,56,360, of which Rs. 2,71,560 was for Original Works, Rs. 4,91,494 for Repairs, Rs. 1,81,825 for Establishment, Rs. 11,481 for Tools and Plant, and Rs. 1,32,976 for Barrack Department.

5. Following the usual course, the operations of the year are described under the several heads laid down in the regulations for the classification of expenditure on Military Works.

1.—ACCOMMODATION FOR TROOPS.

Buildings for European Troops in the Plains.

Military Works, Bombay. New Barracks at Colába.

6. The additions to the permanent Barracks for European Troops at Colába, Bombay, the scheme for which was explained in the report for 1885-86, are making fair progress. The two new Barracks are now finished up to the superstructure of the first floor, and the upper story of the south block has been raised to the level of the top of the doors. The whole of the iron work of the flooring has been fixed in position, and two staircases completed. The superstructure and roofs of the cook-house and lavatory have also been completed. The total expenditure from commencement of the work has been Rs. 1,92,795, and the expenditure during the year Rs. 1,01,387.

Devláli.

7. In order to meet the inconvenience and overcrowding caused at Devláli, from the flooding of the tents by occasional and unseasonable rain, 150 chabutras, or raised mounds averaging a foot in height, and formed of well rammed mooram, curbed with khankees and covered with metal, have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 3,464, and have been found to answer very well.

Ahmedabad.

8. The Station Hospital at Ahmedabad, fully described in reports of previous years, was completed during the year, at a total cost of Rs. 1,96,711.

Kirkee.

9. Stables for 68 horses of the Royal Artillery at Kirkee, 238 feet long and 35 feet wide, and designed on the latest approved plan of iron stables, were completed in February 1888. The stables are intended to replace two old ranges of small iron stables which were found too low and generally unsuitable. The expenditure has been Rs. 13,714, against the estimate of Rs. 17,023. The only other accommodation provided, consists of quarters for two Staff Serjeants, Class B, and one of Class C, with outhouses, on the standard plan, which were completed during the year, at a cost of Rs. 12,162, against the estimate of Rs. 12,633.

Kirkee. (New Jhansi.)

10. A Telegraph school and Store for the Sappers and Miners at Kirkee, consisting of a School and Instructor's room, 30′ × 20′, a Laboratory, 30′ × 20′, a room for Fuze stores, 12′ × 20′, and a Telegraph store-room, 30′ × 20′, were finally completed during the year, at a cost of Rs. 9,364.

Poona.

11. One block of quarters for 16 servants and followers, attached to the Section Hospital, Poona, has been completed at a cost of Rs. 1,157, against the estimate of Rs. 1,845. A workshop for carpenters and blacksmiths in the Military Prison, Poona, consisting of two rooms, one 16′ × 16′, and the other 20′ × 16′, the former fitted with a forge and vice benches for blacksmiths, with a verandah in rear 41′ × 8′, for storage of carts, was also completed during the year, at a total outlay of Rs. 2,533, against the estimate of Rs. 2,546.

Buildings expected to yield a return on their outlay.

Military Works, Bombay.

12. No further progress has been made in connection with the drainage of the Officers' bungalows in the Marine Lines, Bombay, owing to difficulties in connection with the Municipal sewer. A complete scheme for flushing and ventilating the house connections has, however, been submitted to the Municipal authorities. The total expenditure was Rs. 13,952, including Rs. 537 expended during the year.

Buildings for Native Troops.

Military Works, Bombay.

13. The extension of the hospital for Native Troops, so as to make one building available for the sick of both Native Infantry Regiments in Bombay, has been completed at a cost of Rs. 17,986, including Rs. 10,111 expended during the year. The extension consists of a room 96½′ × 20 × 12½′, with verandahs 8′ and 10′ broad, and detached rooms for the dispensary, store and special cases.

Ghorepuri.

14. Two open cut-stone drains in the Native Cavalry Lines at Ghorepuri, from north to south, on the west and east flanks of the lines, and eight transverse drains, from east to west, were commenced and completed during the year, at a cost of Rs. 2,789, against the estimate of Rs. 2,986.

Wanowrie.

15. No. 2 Native Mountain Battery Lines at Wanowrie, consisting of quarters for 3 Native officers, 2 pendals for 62 men each, and 1 pendal for 64 men, were nearly completed during the year, and materials collected for the remaining buildings. The total outlay during the year was Rs. 9,997 against the estimate of Rs. 22,529.

16. Additional accommodation consisting of quarters for 2 Native Officers, two blocks of quarters for 46 men each, quarters for 8 married men, two latrines for males and females respectively, a school-house, a drill shed and a lavatory, has been provided for the No. 1 Mountain Battery at Wanowrie, the expenditure during the year having been Rs. 12,734, against the estimate of Rs. 16,946.

Aden.

17. The quarters for Defence Lascars at the Isthmus Position, Aden, fully described in last year's report, were completed in January 1888, at a cost of Rs. 5,032.

Sind.

18. In Sind, several minor works, such as Landhis for the protection of transport mules of Native Infantry Regiments, the conversion of the Quarter Guard of the late 4th Sind Horse into a Station Magazine at Jacobabad, the conversion of the hospital quarters, 2nd Sind Horse, into quarters for four Native officers, the alteration of quarters of Native officers, old 2nd Jacob's Rifle Lines, to adapt them for the manufacture of blank ammunition, were completed during the year.

2.—ORDNANCE WORKS.

Military Works, Bombay.

19. A new export store-room, with an upper story for the show-room in the Grand Arsenal, Bombay, fully described in the last year's report, was completed at a cost of Rs. 42,667, and handed over to the authorities in August 1887. The new store-shed in the same Arsenal was also completed during the year, at a cost of Rs. 16,726.

20. The fitting shop at the Gun Carriage Factory, Colába, has been enlarged, so as to contain an extra boiler, for which foundations were put in; the existing wall being moved outwards, and a new roof provided. The total cost was Rs. 7,978, and the expenditure during the year Rs. 963.

Ahmedabad

21. A few remaining minor works, such as a well and latrines, in connection with the Ordnance Depôt at Ahmedabad, were in progress during the year. The depôt is now complete, and is already occupied by the Ordnance Department.

Kirkee.

22. The additional buildings in the Small Arms Ammunition Factory at Kirkee, which remained unfinished at the end of 1886-87, were completed during the year. These comprise a powder-drying house, the conversion of the present fulminate of mercury drying-house into two steam-drying rooms, a mooram road on the ground of the proof firing range, four fire-engine sheds, covering 270 feet of Tramway, and a shifting room.

3.—COMMISSARIAT BUILDINGS.

Belgaum.

23. At Belgaum, the new permanent slaughteries for the Commissariat Department, the funds for which were supplied by the Southern Marátha Railway Company, in consequence of the site of the old slaughteries being required by the Company for its Belgaum Station, were completed during the year, at a cost of Rs 18,518, against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 20,001.

4.—STAFF AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Military Works, Bombay.

24. The foundations of the new buildings for the Pay and Pension Offices, Bombay, were begun in September, but work was then stopped. There will now be no necessity for a building for these offices, which will be accommodated in the Town Barracks, as soon as the necessary alterations have been carried out.

7.—GENERAL CANTONMENT WORKS.

Drainage.

Baroda.

25. The drainage of the Cantonment and Sadar Bázár, Baroda, fully described in the last year's report, was in progress during the year. The ovoid sewers, and a portion of the pipe sewers have been completed, and the open gutters are in progress, and the roads will be finished and consoli-

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dated during the next monsoon. The total estimated cost of the work is Rs. 30,467, and the expenditure Rs. 18,770, including Rs. 14,148 expended during the year.

Aden.

26. A new line of water pipes has been laid from the Post Office Pier at Aden to the Condenser Tank at Steamer Point Position. The new condenser buildings at the same position, commenced in 1884, have also been completed, and an office room built for the engineer.

8.—FORTIFICATIONS.

Ahmedabad.

27. The fortified post at the south-east corner of the Cantonment, consisting of a walled enclosure, 200 yards square, with bastions at two corners, commenced in 1884-85, and described at length in previous reports, was in progress. The revised estimate for the fort wall amounts to Rs. 84,197, out of which Rs. 61,105 have been spent up to the end of the year. The Draw Bridge and Gate, and a portion of the wall have still to be completed.

Sátára.

28. Improvements to the Hill Fort at Sátára were commenced by No. 1 Company of the Bombay Sappers and Miners, in December 1886, and continued during the year under report. The works undertaken by the Sappers consist of widening the existing road, making an alternative road on the east face, and clearing jungle and scarping. These works were completed in December 1887, at a total cost of Rs. 7,627; and in the same month the construction of a new Guard Room, Officers' quarters, and a Small Arms Ammunition Magazine, was taken in hand by the Public Works Department, and is still in progress.

29. The new fortification works in connection with the Coast Defences, which were referred to in the Administration Report for the last year, will be dealt with in a separate report by the Inspector-General of Military Works, under whose orders all the Coast Defences were placed during the year.

9.—DOCKYARD.

Military Works, Bombay.

30. The coal-sheds at Colába were removed to the Dockyard at Bombay. The work was carried out by the Dockyard authorities, at a cost of Rs. 3,000.